



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

Board of Directors Minutes

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Maine Center for Economic Policy office, Augusta, Maine

Present: John Brautigam, Helen Hanlon, Ann Luther, , Linda Lord, Barbara McDade, , Stephanie Philbrick, Colleen Tucker, Jill Ward, Polly Ward, Cathie Whittenburg

Absent: Joanna Bowers (car accident on way to meeting), Barbara Kaufman is taking a three month hiatus from state board, still involved in Portland league.

Call to order – 9:17 a.m.

Preliminaries

- Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2016 meeting. Barbara McDade moved to approve as presented. Helen Hanlon second. Unanimously approved.
- Email vote on endorsement of Background Check Initiative – unanimously accepted.
- Treasurer's Reports – LWVME budget filed for audit. Downeast treasurer's report filed for audit. Portland filed for audit.

Board Operations & Governance

- Quad States – Jill Ward reported on the event, everything went well.
- Policy Review - Coalition Policy – Polly Ward moved to readopt policy as is, Barbara McDade second. Unanimously approved.
- Annual Report has been filed by Cathie Whittenburg with Secretary of State's office.
- Summer Intern – Sarah Palmer is starting in June. Will be working on RCV, voter registration, perhaps the blog stuff.
- LWVME swag/merchandise options - Basically only one major company. League has very strict guidelines for state swag. Issue put aside for now.
- Calendar Review – will review at retreat to decide if we want to keep this going.
- Discussion of Vision & Strategy proposal – How to get to full time staff? Would like to have Executive Committee, and anyone else who is interested, as part of follow-up and then come back with final proposal for vote by board.

Committee Reports

- Advocacy
 - Ann gave legislative update. This session mostly involved in issues of open meetings, good government, executive branch revolving door. Looking at areas to see if want to propose future legislation.
 - Impact on Issues – no updates.
 - Linda got in touch with producer at MPBN, very interested in collaborating on program, will connect with Jill.
- Communications
 - Jill thanked everyone who helped get the Spring Voter out newsletter. Ann suggested doing a web page review, similar to policy review, in a more intentional way. Committee will bring pages to board for review.
- Fundraising
 - May appeal – big last thing of the fiscal year, hoping for good return.
- Membership
 - Update on renewals, pending and recent lapses, recruitment. Membership holding steady, need to work on getting more MAL members.
- Voter Service
 - Recommendation to Ed Fund to use up to \$ 2000 to print more how to vote brochures in



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color and on better stock – Ann Luther moved, Polly Ward second, unanimously approved.

- Voter Guide update – need timeline for execution and need to find someone to take over while Barbara Kaufmann is on leave.
- Program/Events
 - Request: Voter Rights/Election Process session, Parent Ambassador Program at Educare Central Maine in Waterville – Sept 15th from 5-6:30pm, looking for someone in the area to do this. Would be good to come up with a 10-15 minute PowerPoint on this to give at other places.
 - 100th anniversary suffrage event/Maine State Museum – Nov 2019 – ME Historical Society working on exhibit, wants to know if want a League person on this. What do we want to do for the 100th anniversary? Will build this into Vision Goals.

Coalition Partners Updates

- MCCE & the Clean Elections Initiative - Additional clean election funding bill didn't make veto override. MCCE is in middle of in-depth process planning.
- Committee for Ranked Choice Voting - two parts, campaign for rcv (c4) – includes coalition for fundraising, endorsements, etc. educational program (c3) working with Fair Vote Maine staffer going to schools and senior centers making presentations. Need to be very clear we are in education mode not advocacy mode with our (c)(3) work. Need people to give some of the presentations in the fall. Working to put together a public piece that acknowledges the tough questions in this. Working to develop a classroom unit.
- Coalition for Maine Women/Choice Coalition – Changed name to Alliance for Maine Women. Most of focus is reviewing legislation.
- Maine Freedom of Information Coalition – Big issue is around closed education committee meeting.
- Background Check coalition – will be have upcoming events, note the national LWV is sponsoring screening of the film Under the Gun.

LWVUS Updates

- National Convention – Jill and Helen are going and possibly someone from Portland. Jill doing caucus on RCV.

Local League Development

- Portland – Emily Farley Award, first time since year 2000, to Karla Wright.
- Downeast – Still doing book group and radio show. Also candidate forum for some of the primaries in June.
- Brunswick – Had a RCV event. Not sure what next move will be.
- Bangor – still doing book groups. Thinking of doing registration drive on all the local campuses.

Adjourn - 12:35 p.m.

Submitted by Cathie Whittenburg, Secretary